

JAN 26 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kingston et al.  
Assignee: Metara, Inc.  
Title: Method And Apparatus For Automated In-Process, Isotope Dilution  
Threshold And Quantification Measurement Mass Spectrometry  
Patent No. 6,974,951 Issued: December 13, 2005  
Serial No.: 10/004,627 Filing Date: December 4, 2001  
Examiner: Hughes Group Art Unit: 2881  
Docket No.: M-15307 US Confirmation No.

Irvine, California  
December 19, 2005

Fax No.: 1-571-273-8300

Attention: Certificate of Correction Branch  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

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- 1) Request for Corrected Patent Pursuant to 35 USC 254

Dated: 1-26-06By: Sandra L. Carr

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Total Pages Being Transmitted: 3

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January 26, 2006**Via Facsimile (571) 273-8300**

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**Request for Corrected Patent Pursuant to 35 USC § 254.**

Applicants respectfully request that the Director issue a corrected patent for U.S. Pat. No. 6,974,951 (in lieu of a certificate of correction) as authorized under 35 USC § 254.

Through no fault of the Applicants, U.S. Pat. No. 6,974,951 issued listing only one of three co-inventors on the face of the patent. Specifically, the patent names Howard M. Kingston as an inventor but did not list the other co-inventors (Marc R. Anderson and Ye Han). Applicants note that being a recognized inventor by the USPTO has substantial tangible and intangible benefits. In this case, the co-inventors cannot proudly frame the first page of the patent - instead, they would have to frame the "certificate of correction" showing that they are named inventors, a far less satisfying reward for their efforts. A certificate-of-correction procedure is thus manifestly unfair to these co-

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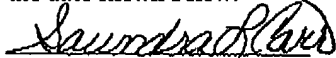
Serial No. 10/004,627

inventors, who were looking forward to their first U.S. patent with considerable anticipation. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Director issue a corrected patent in this case rather than the usual certificate-of-correction procedure.

In addition to the inventorship issue, the cover page of U.S. Pat. No. 6,974,951 indicates it is subject to a terminal disclaimer. Although a terminal disclaimer had been filed during prosecution, Applicants expended considerable effort to nullify this disclaimer because it had been filed unnecessarily. Although the USPTO agreed to cancel this disclaimer, the cover page erroneously indicates that U.S. Pat. No. 6,974,951 is still subject to a terminal disclaimer. Applicants respectfully request that the corrected patent issue without the erroneous terminal disclaimer indication.

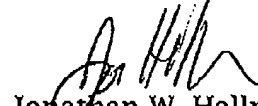
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January 26 2006  
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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